by the provisions of the Technology Development Board Act, 1995. Government value the participation of non-official members on the Board.

[Translation]

Urban Development

3852. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the extent to which the amount utilised for urban development out of the amount allocated by the Union Government during 1996-97;

(b) the amount spent on the sanitation in slum in the urban areas out of it; and

(c) the amount being provided for urban development during the Ninth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The amounts released for urban development projects out of the amounts allocated by the Union Government during 1996-97 (as on date) are given in the attached statement. Utilisation certificates for the amounts released this year will be due next year only.

(b) Urban development is a State subject and funds for sanitation are provided by respective State Governments and Municipalities. Out of the programmes supported by the Government of India, the Low Cost Sanitation (LCS) Scheme aims at improving sanitary conditions, particularly in slums. The amount released under LCS during 1996-97 is shown in Annexure. Data on the amounts spent under LCS on sanitation in slums are not maintained at the Government of India level and are not available.

(c) It is not possible to indicate the amount being provided for urban development during the 9th Plan at this juncture in the absence of the firming of the 9th Plan for the Urban Sector.

Statement

Allocations Provided and Releases Made for Urban Development Projects (1996-97)

Name of Scheme	Allocation (1996-97)	Released so far
1. Integrated Development of Small & Medium Towns	Rs. 28.26 Crores	Rs. 15.76 Crores
2. Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme	Rs. 20 Crores	Rs. 20 Crores
3. Low Cost Sanitation	Rs. 13.80 Crores	Rs. 13.80 Crores

[English]

Supply of Petrol

3853. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the demand and supply of petrol, diesel in the country at present and the component of indigenous production;

(b) the amount spent for importing the same during 1996-97; and

(c) the subsidy component for the customers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) For the year 1996-97, the estimated demand of petrol and diesel in country is 5.18 MMT and 35.55 MMT respectively. The indigenous productions of petrol and diesel for 1996-97 is assessed at 4.52 MMT and 22.07 MMT respectively.

(b) During 1996-97 (April to December, 1996) an amount of Rs. 152 crores and Rs. 7179 crores has been spent on import of petrol and diesel respectively.

(c) Subsidy on petroleum products is met through Oil Pool Account Mechanism by way of cross subsidisation of the products whose prices are fixed above their cost of production. During 1996-97 the subsidy on Diesel is estimated to go up to Rs. 8340 crores. There is no subsidy on petrol.

Levying of Tax

3854. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to levy tax on sale of houses and flats by the builders and property/estate dealers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) No